

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF

THE GEORGIA

ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND

MACON, GA.

1874

SAVANNAH, GA.:

J. H. ESTILL, Public Printer.

1875

*Please Exchange.*

W. D. W. III, I. MS.

*With respects of*

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

GEORGIA ACADEMY

FOR THE BLIND.



MACON,-----GEORGIA.



SAVANNAH, GA.:

J. H. ESTILL, Public Printer.

1875.

JAS. P. HARRISON & Co., Printers, Atlanta, Ga.



## Trustees.

JAMES MERCER GREEN, *President.*  
L. N. WHITTLE.  
WASHINGTON POE.  
HENRY L. JEWETT, *Treasurer.*  
PETER SOLOMON.  
VIRGIL POWERS.  
C. A. NUTTING.  
W. D. WILLIAMS. *Secretary.*

---

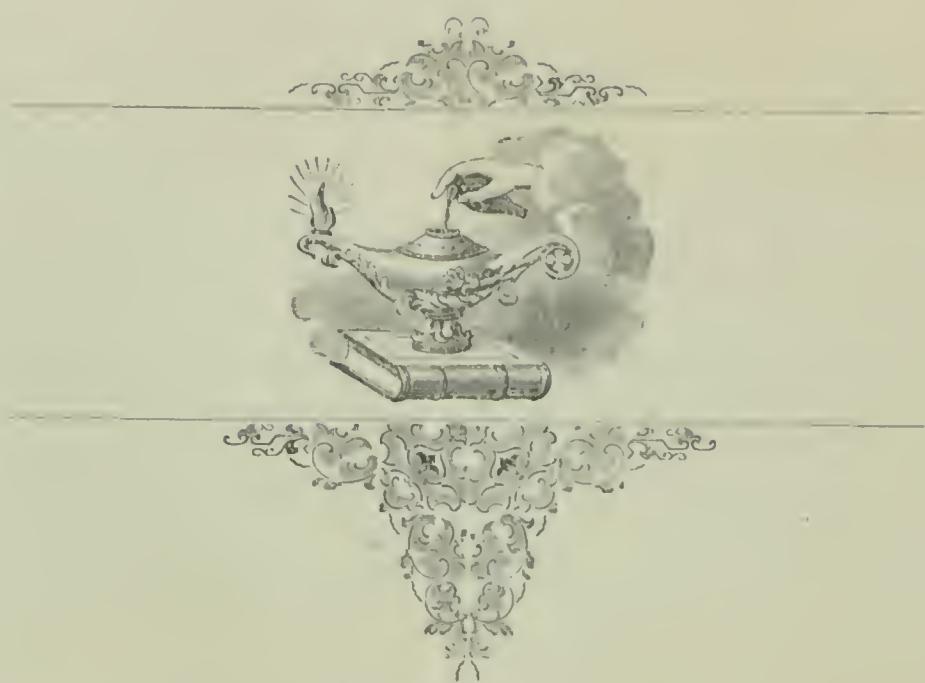
## Officers of the Academy.

W. D. WILLIAMS, A.M., *Principal.*  
MISS H. GUILLAN.  
V. CZURDA.

### ASSISTANTS.

MISS A. E. ZACHRY.  
MISS S. V. COLEY.  
J. T. COLEY.  
J. G. F. HENDRIX.





---



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

---



*To His Excellency, JAMES M. SMITH, Governor of Georgia:*

SIR: The Trustees of the Georgia Academy for the Blind respectfully present the following, which is their Report for the year 1874.

The condition of the finances of the Institution, as shown by the accompanying Report of the Treasurer, is as follows:

Unexpended balance of 1873.....	\$ 915.37
State appropriation for support, 1874.....	12,000.00
"    "    "    improvements.....	3,000.00
<hr/>	
Total resources.....	\$15,915.37
Disbursements to Principal, for support.....	\$12,000.00
"    "    "    "    improvements .....	3,000.00—15,000.00
<hr/>	
Unexpended.....	\$ 915.37

The Report of the Principal, also herewith appended, gives the usual classification of expenditures, showing how the money appropriated to him in orders of the Board, has been disbursed. In monthly reports to the Board, accompanied with vouchers, he submits his transactions, which are reviewed by the Board, and the papers are then duly filed in his office for reference.

The Principal reports the number of pupils enrolled this year to be fifty-one, while it was forty-seven last year, and thirty-nine the year before, showing a steady growth in this respect. The number of blind persons resident in the State, of suitable qualifications for admission into any one or more departments of the Institution, cannot readily be ascertained. It is probable that a very large part of them have not been sent to it. Of the entire blind population of Georgia, given in the Census Reports of 1870, we do

not have under our care more than 12 per cent., but as we receive into the Institution only those of suitable age for instruction, also of incurable defect, also free from disease, also of sound mind, and also of good habits and character; and as we treat as blind those of like qualifications who are only partially blind, that is, lacking vision to such an extent as prevents their education in ordinary schools (a class as numerous as the totally blind, but not generally reported to the census officers), the statistical uncertainty as respects the objects of our care is greatly enhanced.

The Trustees, however, think that, in view of the growing tendency of our numbers, the increasing reputation of the Institution, a better knowledge of its aims and purposes being spread abroad throughout the State, and the continued active efforts of the officers, the attendance of pupils next year will be much larger, and therefore, that the principal does not over-estimate the sum that will be required for the annual support of the Institution. They accordingly ask the appropriation of *thirteen thousand* dollars from the State Treasury for the support of pupils, payment of salaries, and the other ordinary expenses of the Academy for the Blind for the year 1875.

The Principal mentions, in his report on the condition of the property, the facts, that some repainting and repairs ought to be made on the main building, that the building of a new workshop for male pupils is beginning to be felt as a necessity, and that the new rooms over the coal bins, lately built, were left in an unfinished condition, for lack of funds. These are important items of consideration. Besides, some changes and additions for the greater convenience of the inmates, and for the better preservation of the property, might and ought to be made. The grounds need some grading and sewerage to discharge the water that falls upon them, and the yards some becoming and useful ornamentation, and other smaller items of work ought to be done. The Academy for the Blind is a State Institution; its property belongs to the State. Besides its devotion to

the specific work for which it was designed, it is the object of the frequent inspection by both citizens and strangers. Located in one of the chief cities of the State, and in one of the most desirable quarters of that city; surrounded by the residences of citizens of taste and refinement, and in the neighborhood of other literary institutions vieing with any in the State in the forms of attractive decoration and arrangement, the Trustees think that this Institution, in all its appointments and appearances, should be maintained in a manner becoming the dignity of the State. For these purposes, and the completion of the works named, they ask an extra appropriation of two thousand dollars.

The amount of benevolent work in the State, done by the Academy, cannot be easily stated. It may be measured, in a degree, by the difference—repeated, perhaps, in the case of every admission—that there would be between the state of an active, vigorous, intelligent, healthy and happy human individual, and that of the same as a morbid drone, borne down with the prejudices of ignorance, discontent and dependence, pining over a sense of hopeless deprivation and helplessness, with few sustaining resources in either himself or his chances. The former is the condition of the properly educated blind person; the latter the usual case of the same, when left unaided to the hazards resulting from neglect. To properly appreciate the work of a school for the blind requires some opportunities for observation.

The Academy for the Blind is always open to inspection. The officers resident in the building will take pains to explain to visitors the methods of instruction, and the means and appliances used for the amelioration of the condition of the blind, and to exhibit in the pupils themselves the evidences of successful labors.

The Executive officers of the State, and the members of the General Assembly, are especially invited to visit and inspect the Institution at any time when their opportunities will permit. The Trustees, entrusted and charged with its

managements, commend it to the consideration of your Excellency, of the members of the General Assembly, and of the citizens of Georgia.

Respectfully submitted by order of the Board,

[Signed] JAMES MERCER GREEN,

*President.*

Georgia Academy for the Blind, Macon, December 18,  
1874.



## TREASURER'S REPORT.

9

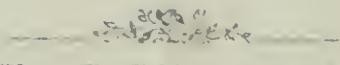
## HENRY L. JEWETT, Treasurer in Account with the Georgia Academy for the Blind.

## FOR SUPPORT OF PUPILS, SALARIES, AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE.

	1873.	1873.	1873.	
	Dcc. 26	Dec. 37	Dec. 27	By paid draft James Mercer Green, President....
1874.				\$ 800 00
Mar. 29	To balance as per former report.....	\$ 915 37		
June 27	To State appropriation through Principal.....	3,000 00	Apr. 13	By paid draft James Mercer Green, President....
Aug. 2.	To State appropriation through Principal.....	3,000 00	July 29	By paid draft James Mercer Green, President....
Dec. 2.	To State appropriation through Principal.....	3,000 00	Oct. 12	By paid draft James Mercer Green, President....
		3,000 00	Dec. 18	By paid draft James Mercer Green, President....
				2 200 00
				915 37
				<hr/>
				\$12,915 37

## FOR SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

	1874.	1874.	1874.	
	Mar. 29	To State appropriation through Principal.....	Apr. 13	By paid order James Mercer Green, President....
		\$ 3,000 00		\$ 3,000 00



## REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL.



*To the Trustees of the Georgia Academy for the Blind:*

GENTLEMEN—In conformity to the By-Laws of this Institution, it becomes my duty to make a full report of its condition, progress and prospects at the close of another year.

The number of pupils that have attended the Academy this year, including three who have been advanced to the position of assistants in the school work, is fifty-one. The accessions of the year have been nine, and the loss one. This is an increase of four upon the number of last year, and the largest attendance we have had in any year.

The general health of the household has been good, but we have had some cases of serious sickness, and one very sudden death. Two cases of rheumatism during the spring gave us much concern, one of which was very violent and long protracted. Other cases of ill health occurred, which were sent home, a temporary change and rest from study being thought most advantageous for them. The death was that of a feeble little girl from Monroe county. It was occasioned by congestion of the stomach, and occurred in less than twelve hours from the time of the attack, and in spite of the most prompt and skilful medical attention.

The progress of the pupils in all the departments—literature, music, and mechanical work—has been satisfactory. The usual curriculum of studies has been adhered to, and the well tried, old methods of instruction pursued.

We do not inveigh against the spirit of progress, nor deny either the possibility or the fact of improvements in educational work; but experience, with close observation and careful study, will, I doubt not, show that very many

of the theories and schemes now being vauntingly put forth by some educators as improvements are but vain, fanciful and assumptive devices. The object is to bring about the result called education, and to do it in as perfect a manner and in as short time as may be possible. In doing this, reliance must be placed upon two things—the patient, zealous and diligent labor of the competent teacher, and the corresponding faithful work and co-operation, voluntary or forced, if the case so requires, of the pupil. Every work of life may derive advantage from the use of expedients ; but the tendency of the age in which we live, as respects the business and work of the education of youth, is to place too much reliance upon mere expedients. Machinery, in the mechanic arts and in manufacturing, has wrought wonders. This has been a suggestive fact, and it is feared that the school-master profession has dreamed overmuch of the possibility of like advantages from similar contrivances in their craft. The stubborn fact that mind and matter are not the subjects of the same laws, must remain ; and careful consideration of the nature and circumstances of human beings, shows that children, in mass, are not put up like Fol-embray bottles, with graduation uniform and exact, to be filled with the sparkling elixir distilled from text-books, in times and measures nicely adjusted according to prescribed rules.

Having in view the object set before us—the education of our pupils so as to enable them to be as happy as their circumstances will admit, to qualify them for usefulness in life and to render as many of them as possible self-sustaining when they leave us—while giving constant attention to general culture in every case, we look out for individual aptitudes and special capacities. We discover that among them some are naturally endowed with “mechanical skill,” others with a “literary turn,” and a third class with a “musical ear.” Here then we have points to make a general “grammar of their natures,” and indications by which we can direct special training. Alas, it is very possible that

we may err in our best judgments, and make mistakes in kindest intentions and fail of most honest endeavors, but better guidance we cannot have. The blind have disqualifications. I think I know the import of the term, and with the experience of years in association with them I can say, without bias, that no class of persons, measured by qualifications, better fill the offices of life than they. Of the number we have had in the Institution, many are useful members of society, and doing well; three are now pursuing higher studies, with credit and success, I am informed, in college, and with us at this time there are young men, brave, manly and intelligent, and young ladies, refined, accomplished and lady-like, the comfort, joy and pride of parents and teachers, ready to enter upon useful work when opportunity offers.

#### THE FINANCIAL EXHIBIT FOR THE YEAR 1874.

##### *1st. Maintenance—Receipts.*

Balance on hand from 1873.....	\$ 155 81
Orders of the Board during 1874.....	12,000 00—\$12,155 81

##### DISBURSEMENTS CLASSIFIED.

1. Salaries to officers.....	\$3,225 00
2. Postage and stationery.....	34 56
3. Traveling expenses.....	167 65
4. School expenses.....	168 00
5. Music .....	106 40
6. Pupils' clothing.....	552 51
7. House furnishing.....	558 64
8. Servant hire.....	616 25
9. Fuel and lights.....	1,049 50
10. Provisions .....	4,124 25
11. Special items.....	825 22
12. Repairs .....	315 56
13. House keeping .....	246 00
14. Special instructions.....	33 05
15. Special servant hire.....	53 25—\$12,075 84
Balance on hand .....	\$79 97

##### *2d. Improvements.*

Receipts, orders of the Board.....	\$3,000 00
Disbursements, material and work, the full amount .....	3,000 00

## PROPERTY.

The property of the Academy is generally in very good condition. This is especially true of the house. The building of two new chimneys has given us sixteen fire-places in rooms which we could not hitherto heat ; some of them in constant use as class and practicing rooms, and which were uncomfortable in very cold weather. The main repairs that are needed now are some repainting and some work on the blinds which suffered damage from careless handling during the time the building was used as a hospital, and which have never yet been fully repaired.

It was found, in building our coal bins, that an additional story could be placed over them with very little additional cost, and we accordingly had it built. This story gives us two large rooms, which we needed very much for laundry purposes, and which, being very comfortable and isolated, we can use instead of our usual infirmary rooms, in case of the occurrence of such infectious disease in the house as we had last winter. These rooms are now in use, but not fully finished, as there was not a sufficiency of the appropriation for improvements to complete them.

The original plan of the building provided for work-shops for males in the basement ; this, experience has shown, was a mistake in the design. The shops are wrongly located, and, moreover, the increase of pupils is beginning to require the use of these rooms for other purposes. We have facilities for building shops outside, at the cost of a few hundred dollars in the case of a plain, substantial brick building of two stories ; the lower of which to be used as a sales and store room, and the upper for work. The growing necessities of our mechanical department will soon require such a building, if we prosecute this branch of training to that degree which its importance demands.

The fence in all its parts has been fully completed, and is substantial, sightly and lasting.

In the musical department (to use the humorous personification of our boys) we have instruments "that have out-

lived their generation, and it would seem fitting to place them on the retired list as *respectable non-eficients*;" they have done good service, and been the source of many joys, and are venerable, but, like old crones, they *chatter* and give "*uncertain sounds*." Soon they must be replaced with new ones. The stock of tangible apparatus and of books in raised print has been well used and well kept, but from wear and growing numbers, it needs some replenishment.

#### ESTIMATES FOR 1875.

The estimate for maintenance for the year about to close was based upon an anticipate average attendance of forty-four pupils. The actual attendance exceeded this number, but the appropriation was found sufficient. From information, I expect an increase of pupils in January, and the names of several young blind persons in the State have been reported to me. The indications are that our annual attendance will amount to fifty-eight, an average attendance of at least fifty-two. Taking the annual attendance which is, in some respects, our best guide, the actual expenses of the present year, for maintenance, tuition, etc., were about \$237 per pupil. Estimating the expenses for the same in the coming year by these data, the sum required would be about \$13,700. The increase of the number of pupils will require some increase in the outfit necessary for their accommodation, as every bed and seat in the house is now occupied, and there will be required, also, a further increase of expenditures for items of consumable maintenance and service, but, as many other items of expenditure remain fixed, the whole expenses of the establishment will not vary proportionately with the number of pupils. Hence, I think that under the prospects of the case, an appropriation from the State Treasury of the sum of *thirteen thousand dollars* will be required, and, with economical management, will be sufficient for the regular and ordinary expenses, (which we call maintenance,) of the academy for the year 4875.

In conclusion, I wish it always understood, that while I

am greatly gratified with the progress of our work, and the measure of success which the Georgia Academy for the Blind has attained, I feel myself greatly indebted to the officers and teachers associated with me for these results. I could have had no better co-laborers than I found in Miss Hannah Guillan, in the Literary and Domestic Departments, and Mr. V. Czurda, the Principal of the Music School. I also give credit to the younger and subordinate assistants in the establishment.

To the members of the Board I again return thanks for their continued favor to myself, and their watchfulness over the interests of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted.

[Signed] W. D. WILLIAMS, Principal.  
*Georgia Academy for the Blind,*  
*Macon, December 15, 1874.*



---

---

## LIST OF PUPILS OF 1874.

---

---

### MALES.

Ayres, Hiram.....	Haralson county.
Astin, Charles.....	Campbell county.
Bailey, William T.....	Gordon county.
Barnes, Josephus.....	Bibb county.
Burks, John J.....	Henry county.
Coley, John T.....	Stewart county.
Coley, S. A. W.....	Stewart county.
Green, W. J.....	Macon county.
Hendrick, J. G. F.....	Coweta county.
Hodnett, Hope.....	Meriwether co.
Jones, Joseph.....	Hall county.
Knox, Lamar.....	Chattooga co.
Mathis, Lucius.....	Calhoun county.
Peacock, Lewis O.....	Wilkinson co.
Peacock, William Leroy.....	Wilkinson co.
Ragan, Charles C.....	Terrell county.
Sanders, William.....	Quitman county.
Singleton, James.....	Harris county.
Stone, Geo. W. W.....	Newton county.
Winkles, Andrew J.....	Heard county.
Wofford, Jacob.....	DeKalb county.

### FEMALES.

Barbee, Missouri.....	Pike county.
Barfield, Aseneth.....	Macon county.
Beaman, Pauline.....	Bartow county.
Butler, Lowrey.....	Gordon county.
Bedgood, E. J.....	Wilkinson co'nty.
Collins, Minnie.....	Alabama.

Coley, Nannie.....	Stewart county.
Coley, Susan V.....	Stewart county.
Couch, Mattie.....	Jackson county.
Dyson, Hattie.....	Wilkes county.
Edwards, Ella.....	Troup county.
Estes, Serena E.....	Paulding county.
Huguly, M. A.....	Harris county.
King, Alice.....	Fulton county.
Lane, Sarah Frances.....	Monroe county.
Mapp, Lizzie.....	Fulton county.
McGuire, Kitty.....	Fulton county.
McInvale, Fanny.....	Crawford county.
Perry, M. A.....	Macon county.
Phillips, E. A.....	Gordon county.
Price, Alice.....	Randolph county.
Reed, Carrie.....	Bartow county.
Reed, Susan E.....	Bartow county.
Roquemore, Ida.....	Bibb county.
Stephens, Mamie E.....	Brooks county.
Taylor, Mary A.....	Harris county.
Thacker, Sarah M.....	Bartow county.
Tison, Martha Elizabeth.....	Washington c'ty.
Williams, Lula.....	Screven county.
Wilson, Virginia.....	Gordon county.





# ADVERTISEMENT.

---

This is an Institution, as its name implies, for the education of the blind. It comprises three departments.

I. *The School*—In which blind children and youths are instructed in all the branches of English taught in the common schools of the country.

II. *The Department of Music*—In which Vocal and Instrumental Music is taught in connection with the following instruments: Piano, Organ, Guitar, Violin and Flute.

III. *The Department of Handicrafts*—In which the blind are trained to industrial work, and taught trades by which they can earn a livelihood for themselves.

## QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION.

The Academy receives into its School Department such youths, male or female, as are hopelessly blind, or incurably blind, to that degree which prevents education in the ordinary method, between the ages of eight and twenty years, of sound mind and free from bodily disease, and of good moral character and habits.

## TERMS OF ADMISSION.

The indigent of this State are taken without charge for board and tuition, being supported upon State appropriation. To those able to contribute, wholly or in part, towards their education, the charge will be graduated from the maximum of \$250.00 to such sum as their means will authorize them to pay. All are expected to come provided with a supply of good, comfortable clothing, to be replenished by their friends, or means provided therefor, from time to time, as it becomes necessary. Blind men, not too old to learn a trade, will be received as apprentices in the Department of Handicrafts on the same terms as pupils are received into the School. If a pupil or apprentice shall, after a fair trial, prove incompetent for useful instruction, or disobedient to the wholesome regulations of the Academy, or in anywise an unfit or improper subject for retention in the Institution, he or she will be discharged.

The annual school term begins September 1st and ends June 30th. Pupils admitted at any time.

All persons are requested to send to the Principal the names and addresses of blind children known to them, with a statement of their circumstances, so as to enable him to form some opinion as to their fitness for admission into the Institution, and to assist in putting him in communication with their friends. The information sought may be conveniently given in simple answers to the following questions:

1. Name and age of the blind person?
2. Name of parents or guardian, with post-office address?
3. Blindness, whether total or partial?
4. Cause of blindness, if known?
5. Has the blindness been examined by physicians and pronounced incurable?
6. Is the person of sound mind, and susceptible of intellectual culture?
7. Also of good character and habits?
8. Also free from disease that will interfere with instruction, or incommodate the household?
9. What sum can be paid for board and tuition; also for clothing?

Address

W. D. WILLIAMS, *Principal,*  
Macon, Georgia.

### CARD OF THANKS.

The thanks of the officers and pupils of the Georgia Academy for the Blind are due, and are hereby, tendered to the officers of the following railroads of the State for free passes, on necessary occasions, over their respective lines—a most important privilege and aid toward the benevolent work of the Institution—viz:

Macon and Western, Southwestern, Central, Georgia, Macon and Brunswick, Atlanta and West-Point, Western and Atlantic.

Also, the thanks of the same are due, and are hereby, tendered to the proprietors and editors of the following newspapers, for sending their issues, gratuitously, to the Institution—thereby contributing means of information as to the current news and other important matters; and also to all other papers that have given such notice of the Institution and its work as was calculated to bring its object and advantages before the blind youth of the State:

The Telegraph and Messenger (daily,) of Macon; The Federal Union and Recorder (weekly,) of Milledgeville; The Houston Home Journal (weekly,) of Perry; The Macon Enterprise (daily,) of Macon; The Christian Index (weekly,) of Atlanta; The Southern Christian Advocate (weekly,) of Macon; The Central City (weekly,) of Albany; The Tri-Weekly Courier, of Rome; The Reporter (weekly,) of LaGrange; The Vindictor (weekly,) of Greenville; The Republican, of Americus; Morning Star (daily,) of Macon; Enterprise, Cave Spring; Wilkinson Appeal, Toombsboro.



